



# NEWS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

**Date:** March 13, 2006  
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### Results of City of Sedona Parks & Recreation Survey Released

The initial results of the Sedona Parks & Recreation survey have been released. The survey was sent to all city residents in the January *Community Connection* newsletter with a reply date of February 17<sup>th</sup>. In addition to providing results of the survey, the city will also be providing a series of open houses to discuss the data and collect additional comments. The survey information, as well as comments, will be used in the development of a Parks & Recreation General Master Plan which will help guide the city in providing and improving recreational opportunities for the next 15 to 20 years.

In general, respondents indicated that they supported open space, bicycle and pedestrian pathways, neighborhood trail links and improving existing parks. Developing new facilities such as ball fields, tennis courts, picnic areas, and a recreation center rated low. The majority of respondents also felt that an indoor swimming pool was not necessary.

When asked about their level of satisfaction with current facilities and service, a majority was *very satisfied* or *satisfied* with the overall appearance, location, and number of parks. They were also satisfied with trails/trailheads, informational signs, and playgrounds. However, over 50% were *not satisfied* with bicycle paths/lanes.

Respondents were also asked how they would like to see future projects funded. Not surprisingly, property tax, dedicated sales tax, and current sales tax were the least popular forms of funding. Those favoring bond issues were split with a slight majority not favoring bonds as a funding source. Respondents did favor private/public partnerships, focused fundraising events, and user fees as possible funding sources.

The survey was developed by the Parks & Recreation Commission, reviewed by a social scientist at Northern Arizona University (NAU), and analyzed by an independent statistician, at no cost to the city. According to Marie Brown, Director of Community Services, "This was a grassroots volunteer effort that has given us some valuable information that will help us provide better service to our residents." According to Brown, "We still want to hear from the residents as to what they want their parks to look like in ten, fifteen or twenty years from now. This is an on-going process, and I think all of us want to see our community succeed in this effort."

Individuals wishing more information may pick up a summary of the survey from the Sedona City Hall at

102 Roadrunner Drive.